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DESCRIPTION
OF
BOUNDARY MONUMENTS ERECTED ON SURVEYS
OF
DOMINION LANDS
1871 - 1917

BULLETIN 38



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Hon. W. J. ROCHE, Minister; W. W. CORY, Deputy Minister

TOPOGRAPHICAL SURVEYS BRANCH—BULLETIN No. 38

E. DEVILLE, Surveyor General

DESCRIPTION

OF

BOUNDARY MONUMENTS ERECTED ON SURVEYS OF DOMINION LANDS

1871—1917

At Township, Section and Quarter-Section
Corners

By

H. L. SEYMOUR, B.A. Sc., D.L.S.



OTTAWA



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1917

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NOTE:—In all cases the periods (e.g., 1871-1880) include both years mentioned.

PREFACE

The information contained in this pamphlet was prepared to accompany a paper on "Dominion Land Survey Monuments" read at the Tenth Annual Meeting of the Association of Dominion Land Surveyors by the writer. Most of the cuts are reproduced from tracings prepared under the direction of Mr. E. H. Phillips, D.L.S., S.L.S., acting Chief Surveyor to the Land Titles Office at Regina, Saskatchewan, who in 1915 had a compilation made of all the various illustrations of monuments that have appeared in the various editions, up to the 1913 or eighth edition inclusive, of the Manual of Instructions for the Survey of Dominion Lands. To these have been added diagrams and information relating to the standard survey monuments first adopted in 1915.

A list of monuments has been prepared for each class of corners and for witness monuments therefor, giving in the chronological order in which the monuments were first used a short description of each monument, the dates between which it was used, whether used in bush or prairie, and such details in regard to the marking of posts, use of bearing trees and such similar information as can be conveniently included. Illustrations on the right hand pages of this bulletin refer to monuments described on the left hand pages, the figure number being identical with the section number.

The index on page vii is intended to indicate at a glance all the monuments used in any year for the different classes of corners in bush or prairie.

The information as compiled was taken from the annual reports of the Surveyor General for the years 1882, 1886, 1891 and 1908 and from the different editions of the Manual of Survey published in the years 1871, 1881, 1883, 1890 (preliminary 4th edition), 1892, 1903, 1905, 1910, 1913 and from the provisional ninth edition issued in 1917.

There are some clauses of the various editions of the Manual relating to monuments that appear open to more than one interpretation. From old correspondence on file it would also appear that surveyors in the field were not always cognizant of changes in instructions relating to posts, or were not always in a position to follow out their instructions. There can therefore be no guarantee that a surveyor has always closely followed his manual or the general instructions as outlined in the annual reports referred to. In some cases the surveyor's field notes show that he did not. Furthermore it has occasionally been found that monuments on the ground are not as shown in the notes.

Having regard to the exceptions noted above, this pamphlet should aid surveyors in finding old monuments by giving them the knowledge of what to expect, and should make possible the location of the exact corner when but traces of an old monument are found.

H. L. S.

INDEX

TO MONUMENTS USED IN EACH YEAR (1871-1917)

—	CORNER MONUMENTS						WITNESS MONUMENTS					
	BUSH			PRAIRIE			BUSH			PRAIRIE		
	Town- ship	Sec- tion	Quar- ter- Sec- tion	Town- ship	Sec- tion	Quar- ter- Sec- tion	Town- ship	Sec- tion	Quar- ter- Sec- tion	Town- ship	Sec- tion	Quar- ter- Sec- tion
	pages 1-7 sec- tions	pages 8-14 sec- tions	pages 15-22 sec- tions	pages 1-7 sec- tions	pages 8-14 sec- tions	pages 15-22 sec- tions	pages 23-26 sec- tions	pages 23-26 sec- tions	pages 23-26 sec- tions	pages 23-26 sec- tions	pages 23-26 sec- tions	pages 23-26 sec- tions
1871-1880...	1,2,3	1,2,3b	1,2,3b	3,4,5	3a,4	3a,4,5	1,2	1,2	No authorization for witness monuments	2	2	No authorization for witness monuments
1881.....	6a,7a	2	2,3b	6b,7b	5,6	6,7	1,3,4b	1,4b		3,4a	4a	
1882.....	6a,7a	2,3b	2,3b	6b,7b	7,8a	6,7	1,3,4b	1,4b		3,5a	5a	
1883-1886...	8	2	2	6b, 7b	7,8a	6,7,8	1,3,5b	1,5b		3,5a	5a	
1887-1889...	8	2	2	7b,9a	8a,9a	7,9,10	1,3,5b	1,5b		3,5a	5a	
1890-1902...	6c,7c	10, 11a	2	7c,9b	9b 11a	9,10, 11a	6	6		7a	7a	
1903-1904...	6c,7d	10, 11b	11b, 12	7d,9b	9b, 11b	9,10, 11a	8a	8a		7a	7a	
1905-1907...	6c,7d	10, 11b	11b, 12,13	7d,9b	9b, 11b	9,10, 11a	8a	8a	No authorization for witness monuments	7a	7a	No authorization for witness monuments
1908-1909...	6c,7d	10, 11b	15a, 13,16	7d,9b	9b, 11b	14, 15a	8b	8b		7b	7b	
1910-1912...	6c, 7d,10	11b, 10,12	15a, 13,16	7d,9b	9b, 11b	14, 15a	8b	8b		7b	7b	
1913-1915...	6c,7e, 10,11	8b,10, 11e, 12	13, 15b, 16,17	7e,9b	9b, 11e	14, 15b	8b	8b	8c	7b	7b	7c
STANDARD SURVEY MONUMENTS AT ALL CORNERS												
BUSH						PRAIRIE						
pages 27-29 sections						pages 27-29 sections						
1915-1916...						1						6
1917.....						1						6

1. **TREE** (1871-1880) with one or more Bearing Trees
—**BUSH**

In a timbered country should a tree be found at the exact corner, it was to be squared and marked for the corner.

This figure did not appear in any Manual of Survey and if a tree was found at the exact corner it is possible that it was cut off and squared.

The tree was to be marked on four sides.

2. **WOODEN POST** (1871-1880) with one or more
Bearing Trees—**BUSH**

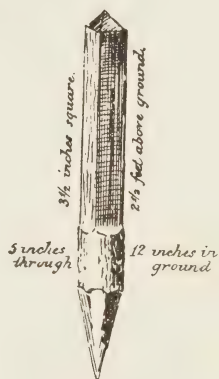
The post was to be marked on four sides.

3. **STONE** (1871-1880) with Bearing Trees where
possible—**BUSH AND PRAIRIE**

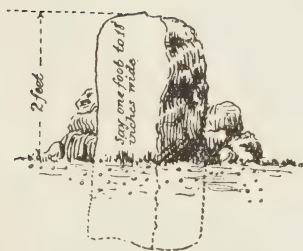
“ In a region where stone abounds the township corner will be a single stone planted and marked with a small pyramid of stones beside it.”



Tree
Fig. 1



Wooden Post
Fig. 2

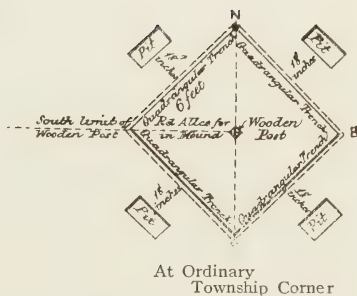
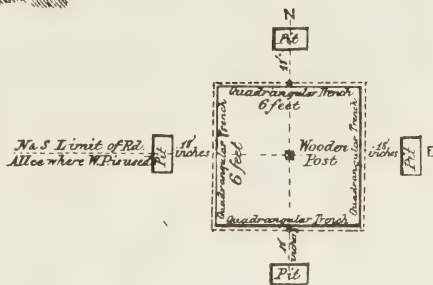
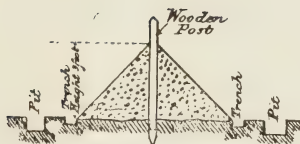


Stone
Fig. 3

4. WOODEN POST IN MOUND (1871-1880) —PRAIRIE

In prairie country township corners, except as noted hereunder, were to be marked with post, mound, trench, and pits, the whole monument being an almost exact copy of the monuments erected at that time on the survey of the public lands of the United States.

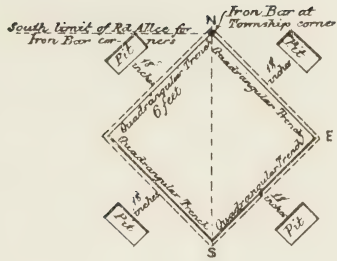
The post was to be marked on four sides.



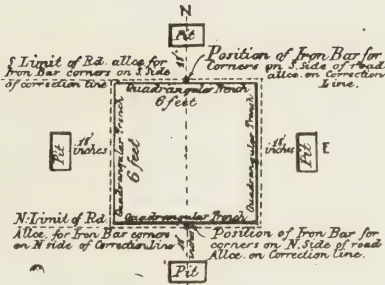
5. IRON POST AND MOUND (1871-1880) —PRAIRIE

At the four corners of the four township blocks, iron posts 5 feet long and $1\frac{3}{8}$ inches square (see Fig. 8 page 6) were planted at the north corner or at the base of the mound as shown.

The post was to be marked on four sides.



On Base Line



On Correction Line

Iron Post and Mound

Fig. 5

6. IRON POST MOUND AND PITS

(a) (1881-1882) with one or more Bearing Trees
—**BUSH**

The post was to be marked on four sides. Where a mound could not be built a wooden post marked I. B. was to be planted 12'' from the iron post on the side where the mound, if erected, would have stood.

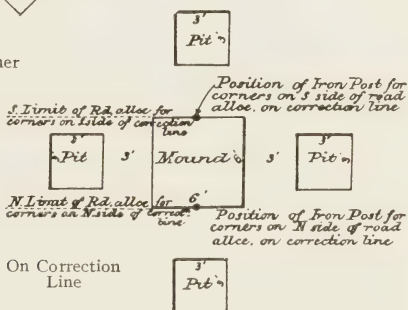
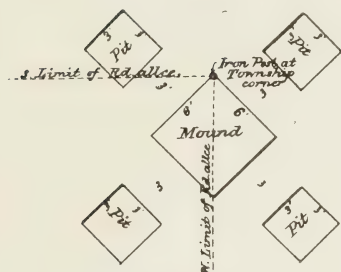
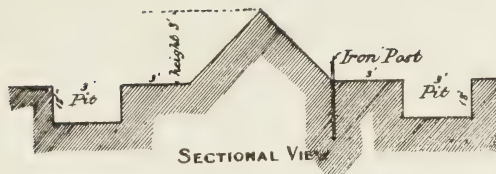
(b) (1881-1886)—**PRAIRIE**

The post was to be marked on four sides. Where a mound could not be built a wooden post marked I. B. was to be planted 12'' from the iron post on the side where the mound, if erected, would have stood.

(c) (1890-1915)—From 1910 Bearing Trees permitted—**BUSH**

The post was to be marked on one side.

After 1886 mounds were to be discontinued on the Prairie; from 1890 they were to be used in the Bush. As a matter of fact, however, some mounds were erected on the Prairie from 1887 to 1889.



Iron Post Mound and Pits
Fig. 6

7. IRON POST AND STONE MOUND

- (a) (1881-1882) with one or more Bearing Trees
—**BUSH**

“Whenever stones can be readily procured mounds *may* be built of stones properly piled so as to conform as nearly as possible in size and shape to the earth mounds.”

The post was to be marked on four sides.

- (b) (1881-1889)—**PRAIRIE**

As (a) above.

- (c) (1890-1902)—**BUSH** and **PRAIRIE**

“Whenever stones can be readily procured mounds *must* be built of stones properly piled so as to conform as nearly as possible in size and shape to the earth mounds.”

The post was to be marked on one side.

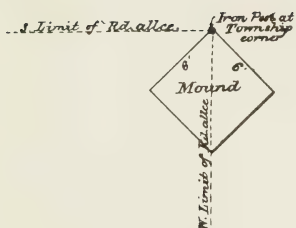
- (d) (1903-1912)—From 1910 Bearing Trees permitted—**BUSH** and **PRAIRIE**

“Whenever stones can be readily procured mounds *may* be built of stones properly piled so as to conform as nearly as possible in size and shape to the earth mounds.”
Pits to be dug where possible.

The post was to be marked on one side.

- (e) (1913-1915)—Bearing Trees permitted—**BUSH**
and **PRAIRIE**

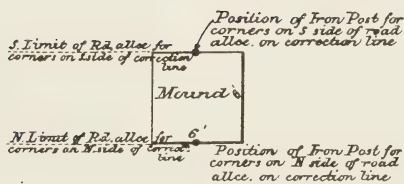
As (d) above except that pits were not required.



At Ordinary Township Corner



Perspective



On Correction Line

Iron Post and Stone Mound

Fig 7

8. **IRON POST (1883-1889)** with one or more Bearing
Trees—**BUSH**

The post was to be marked on four sides.

A wooden post marked I. B. was also to be planted 12 inches from the iron post on the side where the mound, if erected, would have stood.

This diagram also illustrates iron posts used in connection with mounds and pits at township corners from 1871 to 1915. In 1903 and after, one face of the iron post was stamped by the makers with a crown, and no marking was to be made on that face.

9. **IRON POST AND PITS**

(a) (1887-1889)—**PRAIRIE**

The post was to be marked on four sides.

(b) (1890-1915)—**PRAIRIE**

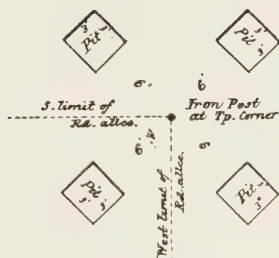
The post was to be marked on one side.



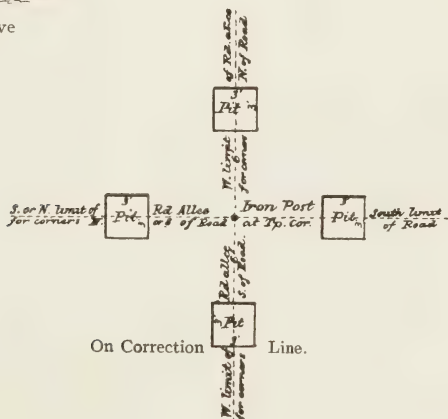
Iron Post
Fig. 8



Perspective



At Ordinary
Township Corner



Iron Post and Pits
Fig. 9

10. LONG WOODEN POST (1910-1915)—BUSH

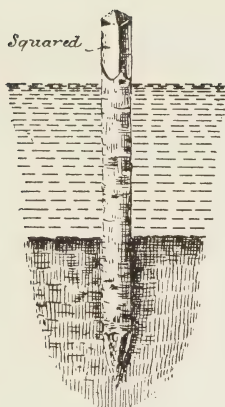
“When a township corner in bush country falls in a marsh or slough not over 3 feet deep, necessitating the erection of a witness monument more than 5 chains distant from the true corner, such corner must also be indicated by a wooden post planted at the true corner.”

The post was to be marked on one side. It was to be not less than 5 inches in diameter and long enough to be driven firmly and show the marking thereon above the water.

**11. IRON POST IN STONE MOUND (1913-1915)—
Bearing Trees permitted—BUSH**

“On rocky ground where the iron post cannot be driven in, the stone mound should be so built that the post stands in the centre of the mound.”

The post was to be marked on one side.



Long Wooden Post
Fig. 10



Iron Post in Stone Mound
Fig. 11

1. **TREE (1871-1880)** with one or more Bearing Trees—**BUSH**

In a timbered country should a tree be found at the exact corner, it was to be squared and marked for the corner.

This figure did not appear in any Manual of Survey and if a tree was found at the exact corner it is possible that it was cut off and squared.

The tree was to be marked on four sides.

2. **WOODEN POST (1871-1889)** with one or more Bearing Trees—**BUSH**

The post was to be marked on four sides.

3. **STONE**—"In a region where stone abounds"

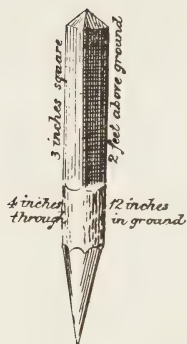
(a) (1871-1880)—**PRAIRIE**

(b) (1871-1882) with one or more Bearing Trees—**BUSH**

In 1881 the dimensions were changed to 3 inches by 8 inches, face measurement, and 12 inches high. The stone was to be planted 12 inches in the ground.



Tree
Fig. 1



Wooden Post
Fig. 2

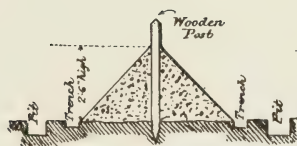


Stone
Fig. 3

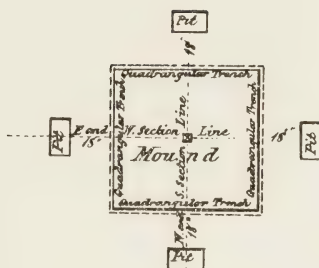
4. WOODEN POST IN MOUND (1871-1880) —PRAIRIE

In prairie country corners were to be marked with post mound trench and pits, the whole monument being an almost exact copy of the monuments erected at that time on the survey of the public lands of the United States.

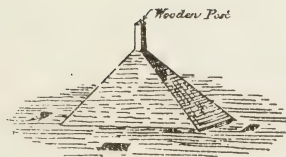
The post was to be marked on four sides.



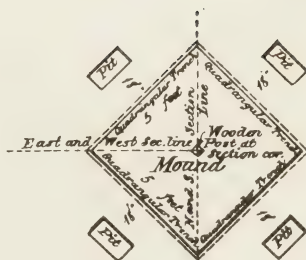
Section



On Correction Line



Perspective



At Ordinary Section Corner

Wooden Post in Mound
Fig. 4

5. WOODEN POST IN MOUND WITH PITS
(1881 only)—PRAIRIE

Note the omission of the quadrangular trench.

The post was to be marked on four sides.

6. WOODEN POST IN STONE MOUND (1881 only)
—PRAIRIE

“Whenever stones can be readily procured mounds may be built of stones properly piled so as to conform as nearly as possible in size and shape to the earth mounds.”

The post was to be marked on four sides.



Section



At Ordinary Section Corner



Perspective

Wooden Post in Mound with Pits

Fig. 5



Section



Perspective

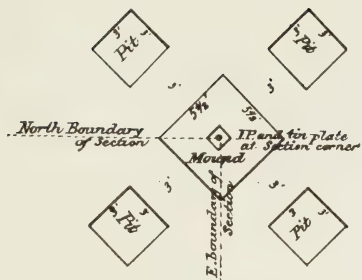
Wooden Post in Stone Mound

Fig. 6

7. IRON POST IN MOUND WITH PITS (1882-1886) —PRAIRIE

“ In 1882 iron posts were substituted for wooden posts at section corners in prairie. They were planted in the centre of the mounds, each post being driven one foot in the ground and projecting two inches above the mound. On the top a square tin plate, having the appropriate markings stamped on it, was slipped over the post and held on by a nail through the post. The letters N., S., E. and W. were stamped on the tin to indicate its proper position on the post. The same markings were stamped on the tins as were formerly on wooden posts except that they were in figures instead of Roman characters. The iron posts were marked with a cold chisel on the iron itself on the southwest face, with the number of the section, or with the letter “ R ” if on the north side of a correction line, to serve for the identification of the post should the tin disappear.”

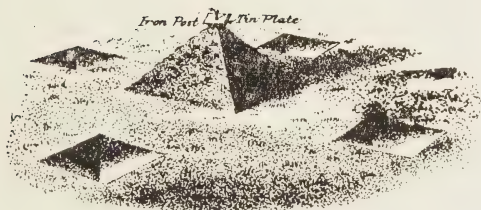
Although it was decided to dispense with earth mounds on the prairie after 1886, in many cases the surveyor's field notes show that earth mounds were erected after that date on the prairie.



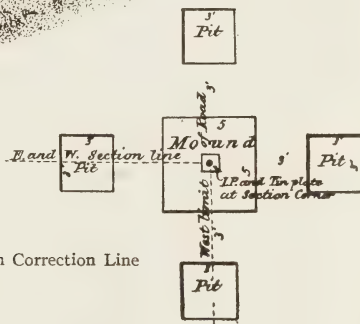
At Ordinary Section Corner



Section



Perspective



On Correction Line

Iron Post in Mound with Pits

Fig. 7

8. IRON POST IN STONE MOUND

(a) (1882-1889)—PRAIRIE

“Whenever stones can be readily procured, mounds may be built of stones properly piled so as to conform as nearly as possible in size and shape to the earth mounds.” The square tin plate on the post was to be marked on the four corners.

(b) (1913-1915)—Bearing Trees permitted—BUSH

“On rocky ground where the iron post cannot be driven in, the stone mound should be so built that the post stands in the centre of the mound.”

The post was to be marked on one side.

9. IRON POST AND PITS

(a) (1887-1889)—PRAIRIE

The square tin plate on the post was to be marked on the four corners.

(b) (1890-1915)—PRAIRIE

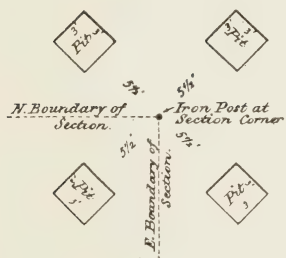
The tin was discarded and the somewhat larger post 3 feet long, $\frac{3}{4}$ inches in diameter, was to be marked on one side only.



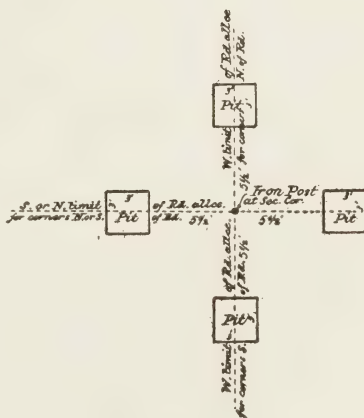
Iron Post in Stone Mound
Fig 8 (a)



Iron Post in Stone Mound
Fig. 8 (b)



At Ordinary
Section Corner



On Correction
Line



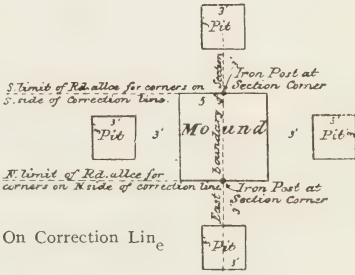
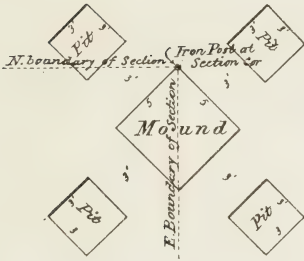
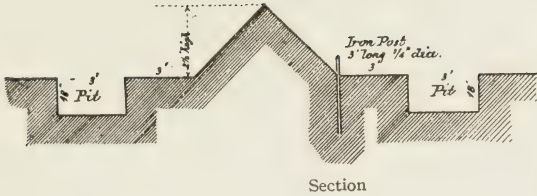
Perspective

Iron Post and Pits
Fig. 9

10. IRON POST, MOUND AND PITS (1890-1915) —

From 1910 Bearing Trees permitted—**BUSH**

The post was to be marked on one side.



Iron Post, Mound and Pits
Fig. 10

11. IRON POST AND STONE MOUND

(a) (1890-1902)—**BUSH and PRAIRIE**

"Whenever stones can be readily procured mounds *must* be built of stones properly piled so as to conform as nearly as possible in size and shape to the earth mounds."

The post was to be marked on one side.

(b) (1903-1912)—From 1910 Bearing Trees permitted
—**BUSH and PRAIRIE**

"Whenever stones can be readily procured mounds *may* be built of stones properly piled so as to conform as nearly as possible in size and shape to the earth mounds."
Pits to be dug where possible.

The post was to be marked on one side.

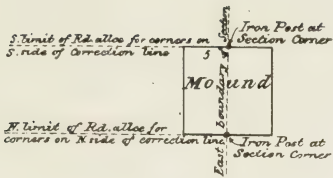
(c) (1913-1915) — Bearing Trees permitted —**BUSH and PRAIRIE**

As (b) above, except that pits were not required.

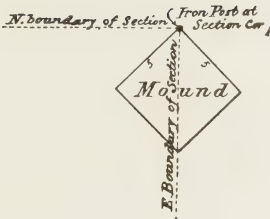
12. LONG WOODEN POST—(1910-1915)—**BUSH**

"When a section corner in bush country falls in a marsh or slough not over 3 feet deep, necessitating the erection of a witness monument more than 5 chains distant from the true corner, such corner must also be indicated by a wooden post planted at the true corner."

The post was to be marked on one side. It was to be not less than 5 inches in diameter and long enough to be driven firmly and show the marking thereon above the water.



On Correction Line

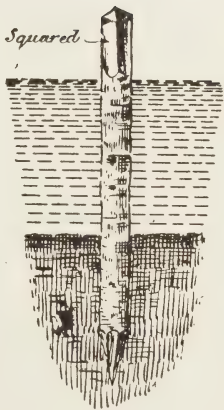


At Ordinary
Section Corner



Perspective

Iron Post and Stone Mound
Fig. 11



Long Wooden Post
Fig. 12

1. **TREE** (1871-1880) with one or more Bearing Trees
—**BUSH**

In a timbered country should a tree be found at the exact corner, it was to be squared and marked for the corner.

This figure did not appear in any Manual of Survey and if a tree was found at the exact corner it is possible that it was cut off and squared.

The tree was to be marked $\frac{1}{4}$.

2. **WOODEN POST** (1871-1902)—Up to 1889 with one
or more Bearing Trees—**BUSH**

Since 1890 the post was to be driven 18 inches into the ground with 12 inches above ground.

The post was to be marked $\frac{1}{4}$.

3. **STONE**—"In a region where stone abounds"

(a) (1871-1880)—**PRAIRIE**

The stone was to be marked $\frac{1}{4}$.

(b) (1871-1882) with one or more Bearing Trees
—**BUSH**

In 1881 the dimensions were changed to 3 inches by 8 inches, face measurement, and 12 inches high. The stone was to be planted 12 inches in the ground.



Tree
Fig. 1



Wooden Post
Fig. 2



Stone
Fig. 3

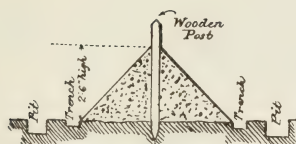
4. WOODEN POST IN MOUND (1871 - 1880) — PRAIRIE

In prairie country quarter-section corners were to be marked with post, mound, trench, and pits, the whole monument being an almost exact copy of the monuments erected at that time on the survey of the public lands of the United States.

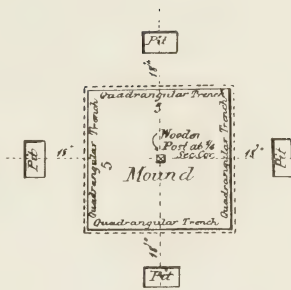
The post was to be marked $\frac{1}{4}$.

5. MOUND (1871-1880)—PRAIRIE

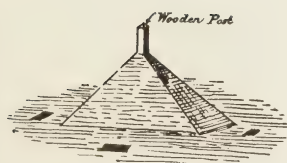
When inconvenient to get timber or stone, quarter-section corners were to be marked with mound, trench, and pits as shown in Fig. 4 but without post.



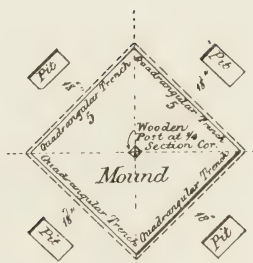
Section



On Correction Line



Perspective

At Ordinary
Quarter-Section CornerWooden Post in Mound
Fig. 4

6. WOODEN POST IN MOUND WITH PITS
(1881-1886)—PRAIRIE

The post was to be marked $\frac{1}{4}$.

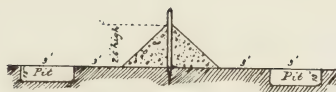
Although it was decided to dispense with earth mounds on the prairie after 1886, in many cases the surveyor's field notes show that earth mounds were erected after that date on the prairie.

7. WOODEN POST IN STONE MOUND (1881-1889)
—PRAIRIE

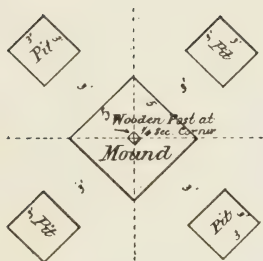
"Whenever stones can be readily procured mounds may be built of stones properly piled so as to conform as nearly as possible in size and shape to the earth mounds."

The post was to be marked $\frac{1}{4}$.

NOTE.—*When wood could not be found within 3 miles, a stone mound alone was used to mark the corner.*



Section

At Ordinary
Quarter-Section Corner

Perspective

Wooden Post in Mound with Pits
Fig. 6

Section



Perspective

Wooden Post in Stone Mound
Fig. 7

8. MOUND AND PITS (1883-1886)—PRAIRIE

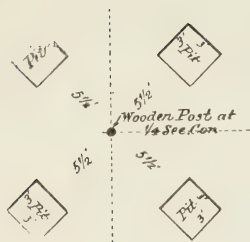
When wood could not be found within 3 miles, a quarter-section corner was to be marked with mound and pits as shown in Fig. 6, but without post.

**9. WOODEN POST AND PITS (1887-1907)—
—PRAIRIE**

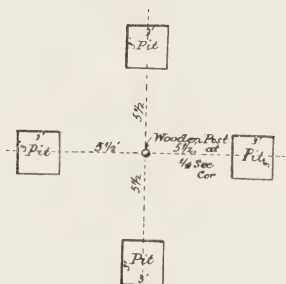
Before 1890 the post needed to be driven 12 inches only into the ground (see Fig. 2 page 15). Since 1890 the post was to be driven 18 inches into the ground with 12 inches above ground.

10. PITS (1887-1907)—PRAIRIE

When wood could not be found within 3 miles, a quarter-section corner was to be marked with pits as shown in Fig. 9, but without post.



At Ordinary
Quarter-Section
Corner



On Correction Line



Perspective

Wooden Post and Pits
Fig. 9

11. WOODEN POST AND STONE MOUND

(a) (1890-1907)—PRAIRIE

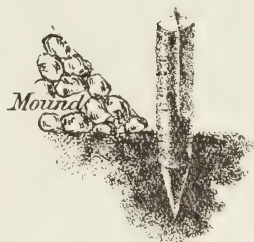
The post was to be marked $\frac{1}{4}$.

(b) (1903-1907)—BUSH

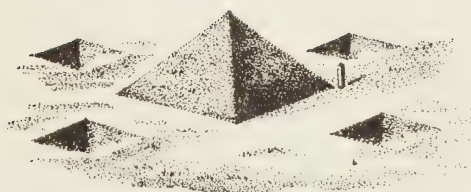
The post was to be marked $\frac{1}{4}$.

12. WOODEN POST, MOUND AND PITS (1903-1907)
—BUSH

The post was to be marked $\frac{1}{4}$.



Wooden Post and Stone Mound
Fig. 11



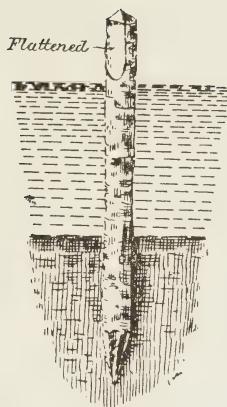
Wooden Post, Mound and Pits
Fig. 12

13. LONG WOODEN POST (1905-1915)—BUSH

“ A quarter-section corner in bush country, falling in a marsh or slough not over 3 feet deep, is marked by a long wooden post not less than 5 inches in diameter flattened on two sides and marked $\frac{1}{4}$ and driven 3 feet into the solid ground and showing 6 inches above the water.”

14. IRON POST AND PITS (1908-1915)—PRAIRIE

The post was to be marked $\frac{1}{4}$ on one side.



Long Wooden Post
Fig. 13



Iron Post and Pits
Fig. 14

15. IRON POST AND STONE MOUND

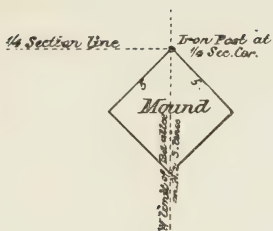
- (a) (1908-1912)—From 1910 Bearing Trees permitted
—**BUSH** and **PRAIRIE**

“Whenever stones can be readily procured mounds may be built of stones properly piled so as to conform as nearly as possible in size and shape to earth mounds.”
Pits to be dug where possible.

The post was to be marked $\frac{1}{4}$ on one side.

- (b) (1913-1915) — Bearing Trees permitted —**BUSH**
and **PRAIRIE**

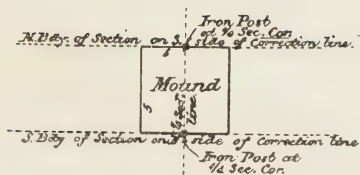
As (a) above, except that pits were not required.



At Ordinary
Quarter-Section Corner



Perspective



On Correction Line

Iron Post and Stone Mound

Fig. 15

16. **IRON POST, MOUND AND PITS (1908-1915)—**

From 1910 Bearing Trees permitted—**BUSH**

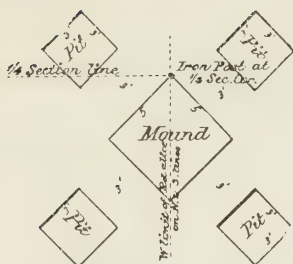
The post was to be marked $\frac{1}{4}$ on one side.

17. **IRON POST IN STONE MOUND (1913-1915)—**

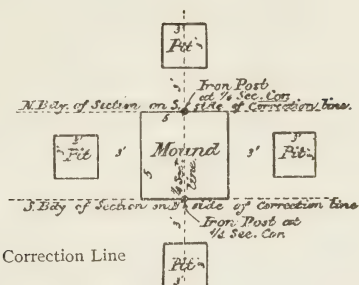
Bearing Trees permitted—**BUSH**

“ On rocky ground where the iron post cannot be driven in, the stone mound should be so built that the post stands in the centre of the mound.”

The post was to be marked $\frac{1}{4}$ on one side.



At Ordinary
Quarter-Section
Corner



On Correction Line



Perspective

Iron Post, Mound and Pits

Fig. 16



Iron Post in Stone Mound

Fig. 17

1. BEARING TREE (1871-1889)—BUSH

Township and Section Corners

If a bearing tree could be found within a reasonable distance it was considered a sufficient means of witnessing the corner.

2. MOUND (1871-1880)—BUSH and PRAIRIE

Township and Section Corners

“ If a township or section corner, in a situation where a bearing tree is not to be found within a reasonable distance, shall fall in a ravine, bed of a stream, or in any other situation where the character of the locality may be unfavourable to the planting of a post or the erection of a mound, the surveyor will perpetuate such corner by erecting a bearing or Witness Mound (no mention of post) at the nearest suitable point and will give in his field book the bearing and distance of the site of the true corner from the mound.”

The witness mound was not required to be placed on a surveyed line.

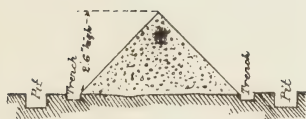
3. WOODEN POST (1881-1889)—BUSH and PRAIRIE

Township Corners only

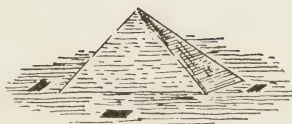
Where a township corner was marked by an iron post and a mound could not or was not to be built a wooden post (see Fig. 2 page 8) marked I. B. or I. P. was planted 12 inches from the iron post on the side where the mound if erected would have stood.



Bearing Tree
Fig. 1



Section



Perspective

Witness Mound, Trench and Pits
Fig. 2

4. WOODEN POST IN MOUND WITH TRENCH

Township and Section Corners

The witness mound which was to be erected only if no Bearing Trees were available was not required to be placed on a surveyed line. On the post the distance and bearing to true corner was to be marked in red chalk.

(a) (1881 only)—PRAIRIE

(b) (1881-1882)—BUSH

5. IRON POST IN MOUND WITH TRENCH

Township and Section Corners

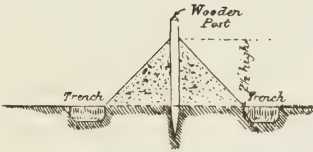
The witness mound which was to be erected only if no Bearing Trees were available, was not required to be placed on a surveyed line. The distance and bearing to true corner was to be stamped on the tin.

(a) (1882-1889)—PRAIRIE

(b) (1883-1889)—BUSH



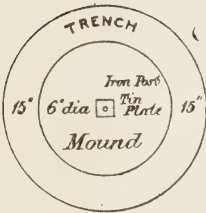
Perspective



Section

Witness Wooden Post in Mound with Trench

Fig. 4



Perspective



Section

Witness Iron Post in Mound with Trench

Fig. 5

6. IRON POST, MOUND AND TRENCH (1890-1902)
—BUSH—Township and Section Corners

The iron post marked only on one side (no section number) was planted at the edge of the mound.

NOTE.—*From 1890 all witness monuments were required to be placed on a surveyed line.*

7. IRON POST AND TRENCH—PRAIRIE

(a) (1890-1907) Township and Section Corners

The post was to be marked only on one side.

(b) (1908-1915) Township and Section Corners

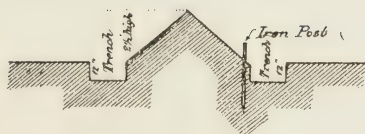
The post was to be marked on two sides, the section number being added.

(c) (1913-1915) Quarter-Section Corners

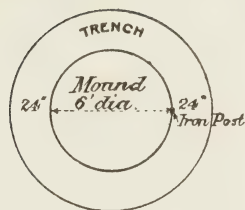
“A witness monument need not be placed to mark the position of a quarter-section corner unless it is necessary to do so in order that at least two of the corners of each of the adjacent quarter-sections may be marked on the ground or unless in the judgment of the surveyor the circumstances are such as to call for it.”

The post was to be marked on two sides, $\frac{1}{4}$ on one side.

In Manuals issued prior to 1892, no mention is made of witness monuments in connection with quarter-section corners. From 1892 to 1913 Manuals state that no witness monuments are required for quarter-section corners.

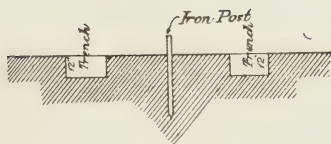


Section

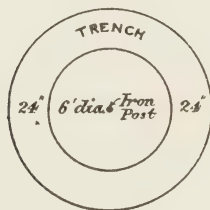


Witness Iron Post, Mound and Trench

Fig. 6



Section



Witness Iron Post and Trench

8. IRON POST, MOUND AND TRENCH—BUSH

(a) (1903–1907) Township and Section Corners

The post was marked only on one side.

(b) (1908–1915) Township and Section Corners

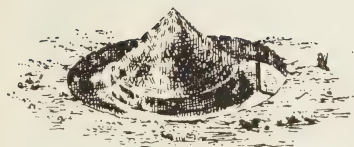
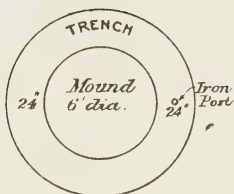
The post was to be marked on two sides, the section number being added.

(c) (1913–1915) Quarter-Section Corners

As section 7 (c), page 25.



Section



Perspective

Witness Iron Post, Mound and Trench

Fig. 8

In 1915 a new model of iron post was adopted. The top of the post was to be flush with the ground. Monuments for all corners were made uniform in size. In bush country a change was made in the position in which mounds were built, allowing the post marking the corner to be placed in the desirable position of midway between the pits or in the case of witness monuments in the centre of the circle formed by the trench.

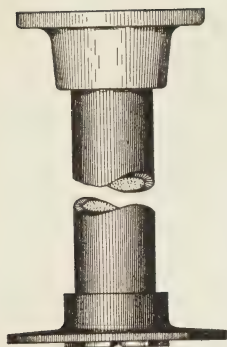
As the supply of new model posts was not available at the beginning of the survey season, both old and new model posts were used in 1915. Surveyors in that year were instructed to make it clear in their field notes what kind of posts were used.

The Bronze cap of the post was to be marked with section, township and range.

1. IRON POST AND PITS (1915-1917)—PRAIRIE

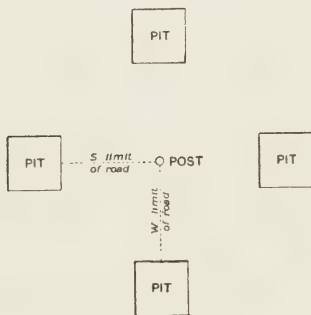
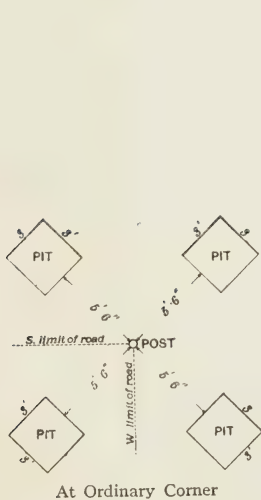
Since first used in 1915 some slight alterations in the construction of the post were made.

In Fig. 1 there is shown the relation of pits to post at a corner on the south side of a correction line. The pits occupy a similar relation to the post at corners on the north side of a correction line and on other similar lines.



Bronze Cap

Standard Survey Post—1917 Model



Iron Post and Pits
Fig. 1

2. IRON POST, MOUND AND PITS (1915-1917)— Bearing Trees permitted—BUSH

According to the 1917 instructions when rock in place or a large boulder over 12 inches below the surface of the ground but not over 30 inches is encountered, the surface of the ground is raised by earth or stones flush with the top of the post. The centre of the mound is in all cases 10 feet (nearly) from the post.

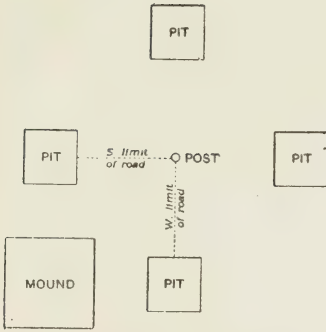
In Fig. 2 there is shown the relation of mound and pits to post at a corner on the south side of a correction line. At a corner on the north side of a correction line the mound is in the northwest quadrant. At corners on lines between different systems of survey and on similar lines, the mound may lie in any of the quadrants, the general principle being to place the mound on the lands which it is intended to mark.

3. IRON POST, STONE MOUND AND PITS (1915-1917)—Bearing Trees permitted—BUSH

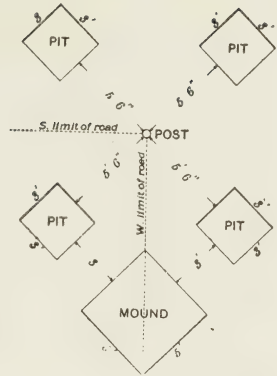
“A stone mound is built in preference to an earth mound when stones are available, but except with the short survey post (as hereinafter noted) pits must be also dug.” (See Fig. 2.)

4. IRON POST IN STONE MOUND (1915-1916)— Bearing Trees permitted—BUSH

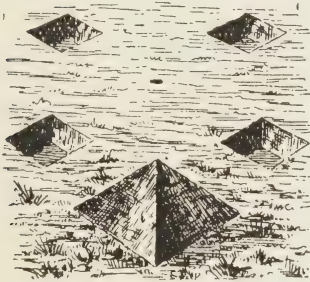
“On rock, where pits cannot be dug or a hole made for the post, a stone mound of the regular dimensions is built around the post.”



For South Side of Correction Line



At Ordinary Corner



Perspective

Iron Post, Mound and Pits
Fig. 2



Iron Post in Stone Mound
Fig. 4

5. SHORT IRON POST AND STONE MOUND
(1917)—Bearing Trees permitted—BUSH

The short survey post is used whenever rock in place or a large boulder is met with on the surface of the ground or not more than 12 inches below the surface. The face of the rock is laid bare by removing the covering earth. Pits are omitted and a stone mound is built at the place which it would occupy if the pits were built (see sec. 2, page 28).

There is nothing in the instructions to prohibit the use of the short survey post and conical stone mound as a witness monument.

6. WITNESS IRON POST AND TRENCH (1915-1917)
—PRAIRIE

“If a corner falls in a lake, in the bed of a stream, on an inaccessible mountain or in any other locality unfavourable to the erection of a monument, a witness monument is to be erected at the nearest suitable point (even number of chains preferred) on the surveyed line.”

7. WITNESS IRON POST, TRENCH AND MOUND
(1915-1917)—BUSH

As (6) above, but mound added in bush country.

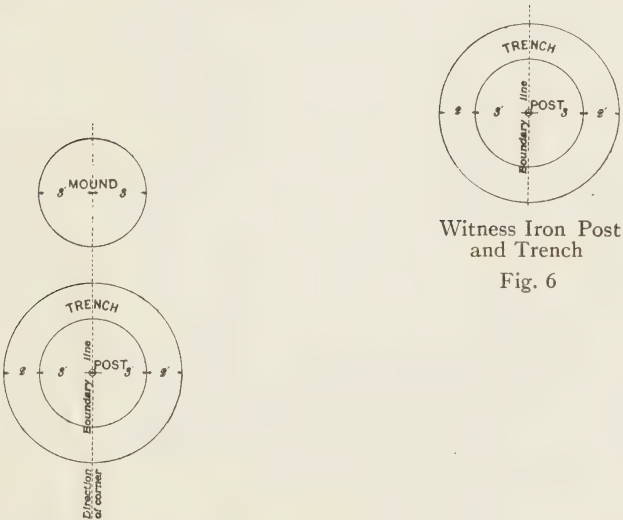
“The centre of the mound is on the line surveyed and at a distance of 10 feet from the post in the direction opposite to the corner witnessed.”

8. WITNESS IRON POST, TRENCH AND STONE
MOUND (1915-1917)—BUSH

As (7) above, but when stones are available a stone mound is to be built in preference to an earth mound.



Short Iron Post and Stone Mound
Fig. 5



Witness Iron Post and Trench
Fig. 6

Witness Iron Post, Trench
and Mound
Fig. 7

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